

how small they are, we ought to stand with them and not make them the enemy.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve my time at this point.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT), a member of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, we've heard a number of things, what this is or isn't about. We're told it's not about the protections for the country, but it is about that. And I have great respect and admiration for our chairman, Mr. CONYERS.

But we were told, also, well, gee, the reason we need more time is the White House has delayed giving us documents. But if you really want to get to the bottom of this, you go back to August 4 when we took a vote on FISA being extended for a number of months. There was no immunity in there. There was no issue about is the President going to turn over documents. Forty-one Democrats voted for it, nine didn't vote, and all the rest voted against it. They were against the protections for this country and FISA.

Now, we need to try to eliminate risk to the country, not political risk to a party. And I understand sometimes you have Members that see the dangers to America, gee, that exposes the country to great risk and if we don't do something and something terrible happens, then we've exposed our party to terrible political risk. This shouldn't be about political risk. We need to do what's right for the country.

The chairman had said there are other key differences and there are. But those are important to note as well.

Our friends across the aisle somehow think it shreds the Constitution if we tap a terrorist in a foreign country and he calls an American. I've said it before and I'll say it again. The solution to that is not that we not tap into that known terrorist in a foreign country; it's that the friends of those concerned about this in America, tell your friends to have their terrorist buddies not call them at home. That's real easy. Then they don't have to worry about this bill.

But if terrorists that are known terrorists in foreign countries call them in this country, then they ought to be at risk for having them tapped. Once we know that there's somebody here, then they go get the warrant and that addresses it. But you cannot restrict it otherwise without doing great harm to our protection in America.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I continue the reservation of time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE), a member of the Judiciary Committee.

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5349, a bill to extend

the Protect America Act of 2007 for 21 days.

Now it's hard for me to come to this floor and oppose an extension of a bill that I support, and supported in a bipartisan manner, Mr. Speaker.

It was this summer, I believe last August, that Republicans and Democrats came together on the Judiciary Committee and worked out a solution for an extension that came to be known as the Protect America Act. And we've heard in the course of this debate, eloquently stated on both sides, what the issues are here. We have antiquated foreign intelligence surveillance laws. The technology that has exploded across the globe in the last 25 years has occurred without a significant updating of those laws that govern the means and the manner and the technology whereby we can collect intelligence. And so we find ourselves, essentially, as the hub of communications in the world in the United States of America. You've heard the percentages, the enormous amount of communications that pass through the United States of America. And yet we have this massive loophole in our intelligence surveillance laws that does not permit us to listen to a terrorist in one foreign country talking to a terrorist in another foreign country.

When we worked out the compromise this summer, it was built, Mr. Speaker, I believe, on an understanding between Republicans and Democrats that that ought not to be, we ought to solve that problem in an equitable and bipartisan way. And I was pleased to support that extension and legislation for a period of 6 months.

But what I struggle with today is now, in the aftermath of that, the contrast between the work in the House and the Senate is rather startling. Yesterday, the Senate approved a bipartisan bill supported by nearly 70 percent of the Senate to close the terrorist loophole in our intelligence laws. It represented a strong bipartisan compromise between Congress and the administration. And yet here in the House of Representatives we passed a 6-month extension. A few weeks ago we passed a 15-day extension. Now I believe we're passing a 21-day extension. And yet the American people, I believe, know in their heart of hearts our enemy does not think in the short term and, therefore, our solutions must occur in the long term. And when it comes to the ability of our intelligence community during this administration or whomever will be the next administration charged with protecting this country, I believe it is imperative that we call the question.

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I believe it is imperative that we rise today, respectfully to my colleagues on the other side, most especially the chairman whom I esteem, and say enough is enough. We need to modernize our foreign intelligence surveillance laws today. We need to find a bi-

partisan compromise as we did last summer. We need to find a bipartisan compromise as the United States Senate did yesterday.

And I say again with a heavy heart, our enemy does not conspire to harm us in the short term. Our enemy conspires to harm us in the long term: to harm our people, to harm our families, to harm our children and our interests around the globe. We must, in this Congress, find a way beyond politics, as we did last summer, as the Senate did yesterday, to repair those holes in our foreign intelligence surveillance laws and give our intelligence community the legal authority and tools that they will need to protect us in the long term.

I urge my colleagues to reject the bill to extend the Protect America Act for 21 days and call the question on this floor. We need a long-term solution to what ails our intelligence laws.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, how much time remains on each side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois). The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) has 4½ minutes. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) has 7 minutes. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA) has 2 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I will reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 2 of House Resolution 976, further proceedings on the bill are postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

HONORING AFRICAN AMERICAN INVENTORS

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 966) honoring African American inventors, past and present, for their leadership, courage, and significant contributions to our national competitiveness.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 966

Whereas African-American and other minority scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians have made significant achievements in our national research enterprise and inspired future generations;

Whereas the National Society of Black Engineers ("NSBE") lifts up African-American

researchers of the past and present, including special contributors named in this Resolution;

Whereas Garrett Augustus Morgan made outstanding contributions to public safety;

Whereas firefighters in the early 1900s wore the safety helmets and gas masks that he invented, and for which he was awarded a gold medal at the Second International Exposition of Safety and Sanitation in New York in 1914;

Whereas 2 years later, he himself used the mask to rescue men trapped by a gas explosion in a tunnel being constructed under Lake Erie;

Whereas following the disaster which took 21 lives, the City of Cleveland honored him with a gold medal for his heroic efforts;

Whereas in 1923, he received a patent for a traffic signal to regulate vehicle movement in city areas, and this device was a direct precursor to the modern traffic light in use today;

Whereas Ernest Everett Just was a trailblazer in the fields of cell biology and zoology;

Whereas his research and papers on marine biology were so well received in 1915 that Ernest Everett Just was awarded the first Spingarn Medal by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at age 32;

Whereas Ernest Everett Just dedicated years of research toward the study of cells and cell structures in order to understand and find cures for cellular irregularities and diseases such as sickle cell anemia and cancer and became one of the most respected scientists in his field;

Whereas racial bigotry in the United States caused much of his work and his achievements to go unrewarded;

Whereas in other countries, he was treated as a pioneer and was recruited to work with Russian scientists and invited to be a guest researcher at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Biology, the world's greatest scientific research laboratory at the time;

Whereas he was welcomed at the Naples Zoological Station in Italy and the Sorbonne in France, where he conducted research and was regarded as one of the most outstanding zoologists of his time;

Whereas Archibald Alphonso Alexander excelled in design and construction engineering;

Whereas, employed by the Marsh Engineering Company, he designed the Tidal Basin bridge in Washington, DC;

Whereas after studying bridge design in London, Archibald Alphonso Alexander and George Higbee formed a general contracting business that focused on bridge design;

Whereas his designs include Washington, DC's Whitehurst Freeway, the heating plant and power station at the University of Iowa, and an airfield in Tuskegee, Alabama;

Whereas he went on to become the first Republican territorial governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands;

Whereas David Nelson Crosthwait Jr. made significant and practical contributions to the engineering of heating and cooling systems;

Whereas he held numerous patents relating to heat transfer, ventilation, and air conditioning, the areas in which he was considered an expert;

Whereas David Nelson Crosthwait Jr. served as director of research laboratories for C. A. Dunham Company in Marshalltown, Iowa, where he served as technical advisor from 1930 to 1970;

Whereas he designed the heating systems for Radio City Music Hall and Rockefeller Center in New York City and authored texts and guides on heating and cooling with water;

Whereas during the 1920s and 1930s, he invented an improved boiler, a new thermostat control, and a new differential vacuum pump to improve the heating systems in larger buildings; and

Whereas African-American innovators continue to improve the daily lives of Americans through their inventions and stir the creative spirit of future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes and appreciates the significant achievements to our national research enterprise made by African-American and other minority scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians;

(2) honors and extends its appreciation and gratitude toward all African-American inventors, for the significant and honorable research and educational contributions that improve the lives of all citizens and that have gone unacknowledged too long; and

(3) looks for opportunities to make sure that the creativity and contribution of minority scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians can be expressed through research, development, standardization, and innovation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H. Res. 966.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in celebration of February as Black History Month, I offer this resolution to celebrate the accomplishments of four outstanding inventors.

The first, Garrett Augustus Morgan, lived from 1877 to 1963 and was a son of former slaves. He grew up in Kentucky on the family farm, but as an adolescent, he worked as a handyman for a wealthy Cincinnati landowner. Surely that early experience, as well as his education, influenced and shaped his interest as an inventor.

Among his inventions, Garrett Morgan designed a traffic signal that greatly improved public safety. In the early 1900s, bicycles, animal-powered carts, and motor vehicles shared the roads with pedestrians. Accidents frequently occurred between the vehicles. After witnessing a collision between an automobile and a horse-driven carriage, Morgan was convinced that something should be done to improve traffic safety. He was the first to be granted a patent for a traffic signal containing the caution provision.

Prior to Morgan's invention, most of the traffic signals in use featured only two positions: stop and go. Because the

manually operated traffic signals of the day allowed no interval between the "stop" and "go" commands, collisions at busy intersections were common during the transition moving from one street to another. Morgan's traffic signal, as well as others, such as a safety hood and smoke protector, contributed greatly to public safety. Such a simple innovation, yet a major impact.

The second innovator mentioned in this resolution is Ernest Everett Just, who lived from 1883 to 1941. He grew up in Charleston, South Carolina, and was the son of a dock builder. He dedicated his life to cell biology research and earned a Ph.D at the University of Chicago. He studied the fundamental role of the cell surface in the development of organisms. He performed his research in the District of Columbia, Chicago, and Massachusetts, as well as in Italy, Germany, and France.

Ernest Just was truly a trailblazer during the time when African American researchers were rare and underappreciated.

The third individual to be honored is Archibald Alphonso Alexander, who lived from 1888 to 1958. Born in Iowa, the son of a janitor, Alexander was the first African American to graduate from the University of Iowa. He studied bridge design in London, England, and founded his own business in the 1920s. He and his partners designed and constructed many roads and bridges, including the Whitehurst Freeway, the Tidal Basin Bridge and an extension to the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

He designed the Tuskegee Airfield and the Iowa State University heating and cooling system. He was truly a Renaissance man. He excelled in football, designed highway infrastructure, and served as Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Finally, my resolution honors David Nelson Crosthwait, Jr., who lived from 1898 to 1976. He was born in Nashville, Tennessee, and grew up in Kansas City, Missouri. After graduating from Purdue University in 1913 where he studied mechanical engineering, he took a job with the C.A. Dunham Company.

During his 40 years with the company, he became an expert on heat transfer, air ventilation, and central air-conditioning. He authored a manual on heating and cooling with water. He also wrote guides and standards as well as codes that dealt with heating, ventilation, refrigeration, and air-conditioning systems.

During the 1920s and 1930s, he invented an improved boiler, a new thermostat control, and a new differential vacuum pump, which were all more effective for the heating systems in larger buildings. He also held numerous patents and designed the heating systems for Radio City Music Hall and Rockefeller Center.

These four individuals and so many others overcame the tremendous personal challenges to excel in their careers and benefit society.

The National Society of Black Engineers has chosen to lift up these

innovators, and I thank the society for its helpful input in designing this resolution to honor these exceptional men.

Let their light shine as an example to the thousands of African American young students across the Nation. The message of their lives, that of Black History Month, and that of this resolution: with challenge comes perseverance, with perseverance comes endurance, with endurance comes strength, and with strength comes success.

It is my goal to wish success to all students of color who aspire to future careers in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 966. It's fitting that this Congress is also considering the gentlelady from Texas', Mrs. JOHNSON's, resolution on the same day that we're celebrating National Engineers Week.

H. Res. 966 honors African American inventors, past and present, for their leadership, courage, and significant contributions to our national competitiveness. Three of the men we honor today were engineers; the fourth, a renowned biologist. Their contributions to our Nation are many; their drive to achieve success, often in the face of adversity, admirable; and their recognition today, highly deserved.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Garrett Augustus Morgan for the contributions he made to public safety with safety helmet, gas mask, and traffic signal inventions.

Ernest Everett Just's cellular work to help find a cure for sickle cell anemia and cancer helped him become one of the most well-respected scientists in his field.

Many of the roads we travel on in the D.C. area, including the Tidal Basin Bridge, the Whitehurst Freeway and much of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, were designed by Archibald Alphonso Alexander.

Considered an expert in heat transfer, ventilation, and air conditioning, David Nelson Crosthwait, Jr., invented numerous practical heating devices. These include an improved boiler, thermostat control, and differential vacuum pump for larger buildings, such as Radio City Music Hall and Rockefeller Center.

These men are role models for our next generation of scientists and engineers. This Congress, through America COMPETES, has made great strides to ensure that our Nation continues to attract the best and the brightest to these admirable and important careers.

I support H. Res. 966 and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no requests for speaking, and I reserve.

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would simply ask

for support of H. Res. 966 and thank the Speaker, as well as the gentleman on the other side and all the staff for assisting.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 966.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1430

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 917) supporting the goals and ideals of National Engineers Week, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 917

Whereas National Engineers Week has grown into a formal coalition of more than 75 professional societies, major corporations, and government agencies, dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce by increasing understanding of and interest in engineering and technology careers among all young students, by promoting pre-college literacy in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and raising public understanding and appreciation of engineers' contributions to society;

Whereas February 17–23, 2008, has been designated by the President as National Engineers Week and the theme is "Engineers Make a World of Difference";

Whereas National Engineers Week, which was founded in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers, is among the oldest of America's professional outreach efforts;

Whereas National Engineers Week is celebrated during the week of George Washington's birthday to honor the contributions that our first President, a military engineer and land surveyor, made to engineering;

Whereas for one outreach program alone, the National Engineers Week Future City Competition, more than 1,100 schools and 32,000 middle school students participate annually and 7,500 volunteers donate more than 225,000 hours;

Whereas during National Engineers Week, more than 45,000 engineers connect with some 5,500,000 students and teachers in kindergarten through high school as they help students and teachers determine practical applications of their academics and help students discover that STEM subjects can be fun;

Whereas National Engineers Week activities at engineering schools and in other forums are encouraging all our young math and science students to see themselves as possible future engineers and to realize the practical picture of knowledge;

Whereas National Engineers Week sponsors are working together to transform the engineering workforce through the better inclusion of women and underrepresented minorities;

Whereas engineers from all disciplines send a new message to today's youth: engineers change the world, save lives, protect the Earth, and make a world of difference;

Whereas engineers are working together to mesh diversity and collaboration worldwide, whether reaching for the stars, building global networks, or helping today's young students prepare for their futures;

Whereas engineers use their professional, scientific, and technical knowledge and skills in creative and innovative ways to fulfill society's needs;

Whereas engineers have helped meet the major technological challenges of our time—from rebuilding towns devastated by natural disasters to designing an information superhighway that will speed our country into the future;

Whereas engineers are a crucial link in research, development, and demonstration in transforming scientific discoveries into useful products, and we will look more than ever to engineers and their knowledge and skills to meet the challenges of the future;

Whereas engineers play a crucial role in developing the consensus engineering standards that permit modern economies and societies to exist; and

Whereas the 2006 National Academy of Sciences report entitled "Rising Above the Gathering Storm" highlighted the worrisome trend that fewer students are now focusing on engineering in college at a time when increasing numbers of today's 2,000,000 United States engineers are nearing retirement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Engineers Week and its aim to increase understanding of and interest in engineering and technology careers and to promote literacy in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and

(2) will work with the engineering community to make sure that the creativity and contribution of that community can be expressed through research, development, standardization, and innovation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. SOLIS). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H. Res. 917, the resolution now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.